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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Re: USSN: 10/552,115
Hiroki Hibino, et al.
Our Docket: 19206

Dear Sirs:

The Filing Receipt for the above-identified patent application does not list the Assignment for Published Patent Application information. It should read as follows:

Assignment for Published Patent Application
Olympus Corporation, Tokyo Japan

as indicated on the enclosed pages. Please make the corrections and send us a corrected Filing Receipt.

Very truly yours,

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/552,115	10/04/2005	1744	1310	19206	9	13	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 4085

45307
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FILING RECEIPT



OC000000020259823

Date Mailed: 09/01/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

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Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number **45307**.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP04/05057 04/08/2004

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2003-105316 04/09/2003
 JAPAN 2003-154735 05/30/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 08/30/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/552,115**

Projected Publication Date: 12/07/2006

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Culture treatment apparatus and automatic culture apparatus

Preliminary Class

435

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Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

19206

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/JP2004/005057INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
8 April 2004 (08.04.2004)PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
9 April 2003 (09.04.2003)

TITLE OF INVENTION

CULTURE TREATMENT APPARATUS AND AUTOMATIC CULTURE APPARATUS

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Hiroki Hibino, Hiroshi Fukuda, Kiminobu Numata, Hiroyuki Machida, Tomoyuki Kinoshita and Kenji Nakamura

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.
4. ☐ The US has been elected (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).
11. ☐ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☒ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

Items 13 to 23 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. ☐ A substitute specification.
18. ☐ A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.
19. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.
20. ☐ A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
21. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
22. ☒ Express Mail Label No. EV717621688US
23. ☒ Other items or information:

*Continuation of Priority Date claimed 30 May 2003 (30.05.2003)
Nine (9) sheets of drawings
Assignee: OLYMPUS CORPORATION of TOKYO, JAPAN